

Remarks

The instant Office Action dated January 27, 2010 notes the following rejections: claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112(1); claims 1-5 and 7-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Johnsgard (U.S. Patent No. 6,200,634); claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the '634 reference; and claims 3, 6 and 12-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the '634 reference in view of Schietinger (U.S. Patent Pub. 2003/0036877). Applicant traverses all of the rejections and, unless explicitly stated by the Applicant, does not acquiesce to any objection, rejection or averment made in the Office Action.

Applicant appreciates the courtesy extended by the Examiner in the brief telephone conversation of March 18, 2010. In conformance with M.P.E.P. § 713.05 and the Examiner's Interview Summary of March 25, 2010, the substance of this conversation included a discussion of the Examiner's interpretation of the term susceptor and that the indicated element 524 was a cavity and not a susceptor. The Examiner also explained his position with respect to limitations directed toward determinations of temperature from an electrical signal. No agreement was reached regarding the claims and these discussion points.

Also discussed in the telephone conversation were embodiments of Applicant's disclosure relating to "calibration" that can be useful for compensating for problems with low-pressure and low-temperature deposition cycles (*e.g.*, large variations in between susceptor and wafer temperatures due to heat transfer being dominated by conduction and emissivity changes in the wafer). It was agreed that limitations directed toward such an embodiment would overcome the evidence of record and the outstanding prior-art rejections.

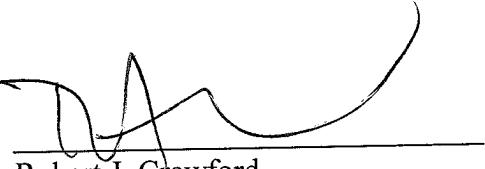
Applicant respectfully traverses each of the §§ 112(1), 102(b) and 103(a) rejections for at least the reasons presented in the previous responses and thereby preserves the right to claim such subject matter in the future (*e.g.*, in a continuation application). Notwithstanding, Applicant has introduced amendments that render the outstanding rejection moot. Applicant submits that the amendments are fully supported by the specification (*see, e.g.*, paragraphs 0020-0028 and 0038 of Applicant's published application). As there are not believed to be any outstanding rejections, Applicant respectfully requests that all rejections be withdrawn and the application be allowed.

In view of the remarks above, Applicant believes that each of the rejections has been overcome and the application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any remaining issues that could be readily addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is asked to contact the agent overseeing the application file, Peter Zawilski, of NXP Corporation at (408) 474-9063.

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